

AMERC News

Issue 82 – Incorporates Circular 303

January 2022

Editorial

Welcome to issue 82 of AMERC News - which doubles as **Circular 303** and, as such, must be circulated to all GMDSS instructors / examiners by their AMERC centre contact.



From all of us at AMERC, Happy New Year! Hope everybody enjoyed their festive break, and we wish you all the best for 2022.

On page 2, you'll find updates from the latest **MCG open session meeting**, which was held on Thursday 9th December via Zoom.

The **NAC Statistics Report** for GMDSS examinations is also on page 2.

'**Maritime Miscellaneous**' (page 3) features a notice on updated MCA GMDSS guidelines, which all should ensure they read.

GMDSS Criss-Cross has made a return and is on page 3. Answers will be given in the next edition.

Please note: The EC are currently holding talks regarding the format of the 2022 AGM. An update will be issued to all members in the very near future.

*Your submissions are always welcome for **Explanation Please? Member Profile, Maritime Misc.**' and **Tales from the Key-Side** – and other items that were likely to be of interest to others.*

Thanks for reading! Please get in touch if you have anything to add to next quarter's newsletter.

Prue

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The **Maritime Consultation Group (MCG)** meets regularly - currently four times each year – for the AMERC Executive Committee 'Open Meeting'. MCG membership consists of AMERC Executive Committee (EC) representatives; the AMERC Chief Examiner; the MCA Chief Examiner and/or the MCA Deck & GMDSS Team Leader; the NAC and other AMERC/industry specialists.

The latest meeting was held online in June 2021. The following items reflect discussions at MCG and/or associated items that may be of interest to Members and training centres.

The EC and MCG met via Zoom on 9th December 2021 for both open and closed meeting sessions. Below is a summary of the open session.

Chief Examiner Reports

Full audits have been carried out remotely for the following centres: Thesi, GMDSS4All, and MPT. All centres passed with no issues, and have been issued a one-year extension by the MCA (current process due to remote audits). The first in-person full audits since the start of the pandemic were carried out at WMT and City of Glasgow College, who also passed with no issues. Covid safety measures were adhered to at all times. Congratulations to all centres!

New examiners

There were a large batch of candidates put forward for probationary examiner status:

Alfred Marcel Nazareth	Anglo Eastern
Bibhas Mitra	AMET
Thaivarayan P.T.Saravanan	AMET
Capt. Ridwan-ul Haque	East Coast College
Ian Smithson	Tyne Coast College
Gregor McGowan	UKSA

All applicants were approved, congratulations to them!

NAC Statistics Report

(Editor's note: As with all NAC statistics at the moment, Covid-19 must be taken into consideration when looking at these numbers.)

GOC - UK exam numbers have decreased by 40% from the same period last year and overseas exams have decreased by 23%. UK first-time pass rate has increase by 1% and overseas first-time pass rate has increased by 4%.

ROC - ROC exam numbers have decreased by 10% for the UK and overseas have decreased by 29% compared to last year. UK first-time pass rate has increased by 7%, and first-time pass rate for overseas exams has decreased by 1%.

LRC - UK exams have decreased by 38%, however, overseas LRC exams have increased by 200% since last year

There have been 1237 GMDSS certificates issued for this year against 1166 last year.

GMDSS Examination Statistics – rolling annual report: National Administration Centre (NAC) examination statistics for the period **1st Oct 2020 – 30th Sept 2021** are shown below:

EXAMINATION	ENTERED (1 st time)	PASSED (1 st attempt)	% PASSED 1 ST ATTEMPT
UK GOC	723 (671)	662 (615)	615/671 (91.6%)
ALL GOC	1180 (1109)	1099 (1034)	1034/1109 (93.2%)
UK ROC	66 (64)	63 (61)	61/64 (95.3%)
ALL ROC	90 (87)	84 (82)	82/87 (94.2%)
LRC	53 (51)	49 (49)	49/51 (96.0%)

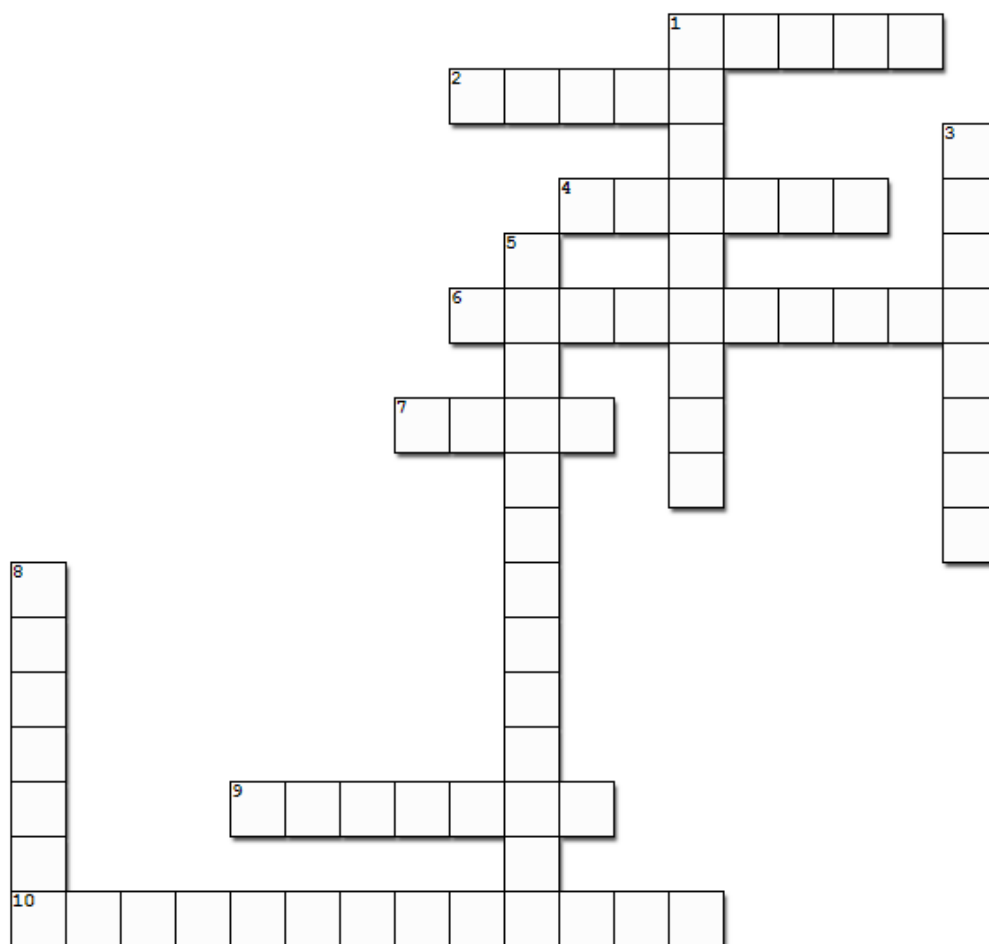
Maritime Miscellaneous – MCA Updated GMDSS regulations

The MCA have recently updated some of their statutory guidance and regulation documents. AMERC strongly suggests all members check the latest versions of the following documents on the MCA website: [MCA Guidance and Regulation Documents](#) Alternatively, click below to read the items.

- [MSN 1690](#)
- [MGN 641](#)
- [MSN 1903](#)

The latest revisions were issued on the 6th December 2021.

GMDSS Criss-Cross Edition 82 - answers should be researched and/or confirmed by reference to ALRS / ADRS, *where appropriate. (Clues overleaf)*



Down:

- 1: Navtex 'X' – Greenland
- 3: Japanese cruise port and gateway to southern Kyushu
- 5: Largest lake by surface area in Africa
- 8: Largest port in northern China

Across:

- 1: Equatorial country south of Cameroon
- 2: International signalling code flag denoting "man overboard"
- 4: City where Uber plans to run their first "Uber Boat" service
- 6: Body of water between Australia and New Zealand
- 7: Message complete and reply expected
- 9: Belgium's main port
- 10: Iceland's most eastern sea port

Issue 81 answers

Down: 1= Helsinki 2= Fuzhou 4= Shanghai 6= Tallinn 8= Ningbo 11= Papa 12= Taipei
Across: 3= Galway 5= Hangzhou 7= Undva 9= Cambria 10= Newport